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(SECRETS)

WASHINGTON--SEN. HOWARD W. CANNON COMPLAINED TODAY THAT MILITARY INFORMATION, GIVEN TO SENATORS UNDER MUSH-HUSH SECRECY CONDITIONS, IS BEING SOLD FOR A DOLLAR BY THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.

THE NEVADA DEMOCRAT IS A MEMBER OF THE SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE. HE AIRED HIS COMPLAINT IN A SHORT SENATE SPEECH.

"I HOPE THAT IN THE FUTURE OUR ENEMIES WILL BE UNABLE TO PURCHASE FOR THE SUM OF \$1, OR AT ANY PRICE, INFORMATION SUCH AS THAT CONTAINED IN THE BUDGET AND NUMEROUS OTHER PUBLICATIONS," CANNON SAID.

CITING SAMPLES OF DATA GIVEN IN CLOSED-DOOR BRIEFINGS AND INCLUDED IN THE HANDY-SIZE \$1 BUDGET SUMMARY, CANNON SAID THEY ARE "NOT THE NECESSARILY SECURITY BREACHES" OR EVEN PUBLISHED THERE PUBLICLY FOR THE FIRST TIME. IF THE INFORMATION IS PROPER, HOWEVER, THEN "WE SHOULD NOT INDULGE IN THE FAKERY OF DISCLOSING IT TO SENATORS BEHIND LOCKED DOORS," HE SAID.

MUCH OF THE CLASSIFIED INFORMATION, CANNON SAID, "WAS CONSIDERED SO SECRET THAT NOT EVEN STAFF REPRESENTATIVES OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS WERE PERMITTED TO HEAR OFFICIALS OF THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT."

HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT PAGE 62 OF THE NEW HANDBOOK-STYLE BUDGET DOCUMENT, AS REPRINTED BY THE HOUSE, INCLUDES A DETAILED THREE-YEAR CHART ON THE NUMBER OF MILITARY PERSONNEL IN EACH BRANCH OF THE SERVICE, "THE INVENTORY OF THEIR HARDWARE, THE NUMBER OF ACTIVE AIRCRAFT AND AIR WINGS AND SIMILAR INFORMATION."

REGARDLESS OF ITS CLASSIFICATION, CANNON SAID, SUCH DATA IS "A VALUABLE AID TO OUR ENEMIES" IN HIS DEFENSE PLANNING AND IS AVAILABLE TO AN ENEMY FOR A DOLLAR.

"THIS IS A CHEAP PRICE INDEED TO PAY FOR INFORMATION THE COUNTERPART OF WHICH OUR OWN INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES SPEND COUNTLESS DOLLARS AND ENGAGE IN GREAT RISKS TO OBTAIN," THE SENATOR SAID.

AS OTHER EXAMPLES OF SUCH BUDGET INFORMATION GIVEN BEHIND CLOSED DOORS BUT NOT IN UNCLASSIFIED VERSIONS OF ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE TESTIMONY, CANNON CITED DATA ON PLANNED PURCHASES OF PLANES, TRUCKS AND HELICOPTERS AND ON AIR-BORNE AND GROUND BOMBERS ALERTS.

IN ONE INSTANCE, CANNON SAID, THE ARMY CLASSIFIED CERTAIN DATA IN ITS PRESENTATION WHICH HAD ALREADY BEEN PUBLICLY RELEASED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. BOTH REPORTS HAD BEEN PREPARED FOR THE SAME COMMITTEE IN THE SAME WEEK OF HEARINGS, CANNON SAID.

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COMPLAINING OF "CONFUSION" OVER CLASSIFICATION CANNON DECLARED THAT THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT SHOULD GIVE "THE HIGHEST PRIORITY" TO A FULL SCALE TOP-LEVEL REVIEW OF SECURITY POLICY WHICH WOULD RESULT IN "MAKING THE WORK OF FOREIGN AGENTS MORE DIFFICULT RATHER THAN EASIER."

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